NEWS
Down and out?
Cold water, although largely unreported to Physical Plant, plagues Bundy **page 2**

FEATURES
Counseling confidentiality
Case '21 investigates Counseling Center's privacy policy **page 8**

SPORTS
Moving on up
Men's basketball defeats Tufts at home to advance to NESCAC semifinals **page 16**

1847 The Spectator

The Spectator

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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Evading police, mobile meth lab crashes in President's driveway

by Charles Dunst '18
Editor-in-Chief

On Feb 13., the Hamilton community was notified by all-campus email of a criminal incident in Clinton, NY, that concluded with a vehicle being abandoned near the bottom of College Hill Road. While trying to evade the Kirkland Police, the vehicle, which was stolen, crashed into another vehicle in the driveway of President Wippman's house. According to the email, "a large cache of drugs was found in the car." The *Utica Observer-Dispatch* noted that authorities were originally called in reference to "people throwing trash out a vehicle's windows in the area of Utica Street."

At the time, the campus was alerted of three potential persons of interest: *two females, one with curly hair,* and one male wearing a tan jacket fled on foot from the scene. The three were last seen running down College Hill Road toward Route 233.

As of the morning of Feb 14., one of the female suspects "with possible connections" to the incident was arrested in the village at a gas station on Utica Street. In response, the Clinton Central School District instituted a "lock-out" protocol, thereby preventing anyone from entering school buildings.

Over the last week, *The Spectator* has secured more details regarding this incident.

"It was quite a surprise to find a meth lab parked in the driveway," President Wippman told *The Spectator*. "I'm grateful no one was hurt and that local law enforcement and Campus Safety responded so rapidly and effectively."

"Given the drugs involved, the situation could have been a lot worse."

According to Francis Coots, Hamilton's Director of Campus Safety and a 30-year New York State police commander, the stolen vehicle, while evading police, entered and subsequently crashed in the driveway of President Wippman's home on the bottom of College Hill Road.

"The vehicle in question tried to evade law enforcement by entering the west driveway to President Wippman's residence and as it passed by the main entrance it struck a vehicle which was parked in the driveway. The collision was relatively minor in nature as there was no damage to either vehicle. Before the police could catch up to the fleeing vehicle, the operator fled into the woods behind the residence. The pursuing officers attempted to apprehend the operator but he was able to elude them in the wooded area behind the President's house," Coots said.

Additionally, he confirmed that the the vehicle was not only filled with drugs, but was also operating as a mobile methamphetamine lab, as, "Upon returning to the fleeing vehicle, the officers discovered drug paraphernalia, drugs and the remnants of an illegal methamphetamine lab."

According to the *Utica Observer-Dispatch*, methamphetamine labs present a unique threat of fire, as "First responders say dealing with a methamphetamine lab fire means extra training for firefighters and investigators because of the potential for a hazardous situation."

PHOTO COURTESY OF PRESIDENT DAVID WIPPMAN

The crash, pictured above, occurred in President David Wippman's driveway on the night of February 13th.

Drug ingredients, which can include substances with the potential to explode such as lithium (found in batteries) and red phosphorus (often found in road flares), are considered to be "an explosive device," according to Rome Fire Chief Ronald Brement. "They can add to the intensity of a fire."

Due to the combustible nature of such labs, those living in the President's home were advised to move from the potential range of the blast.

"The officers, recognizing the volatility of the items that make up the illicit lab, cleared the area, alerted the occupants of President Wippman's residence to move to an area away from the driveway and the State Police Contaminated Crime Scene Emergency Response Team (CCSERT) was requested to respond to mitigate the lab," Coots said. "Once the lab was mitigated and rendered safe, the evidence and scene was turned back over to the Kirkland Police Department for further investigation.

"The potential for a fire inside the vehicle was elevated due to the volatility of the chemicals."

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call police at 315-853-2924.

NBC's Andrea Mitchell chosen to moderate combined Great Names/Common Ground event

by Benjamin Katz '20
News Editor

Following the announcement of Condoleezza Rice and Susan Rice as this year's Great Names speakers, the College has chosen Andrea Mitchell of NBC to moderate the debate.

Mitchell is the chief foreign affairs correspondent and host of MSNBC's *Andrea Mitchell Reports*. Since joining *NBC News* in 1978, Mitchell has covered seven presidents, Capitol Hill, and, since 1994, has focused on the U.S. State Department and intelligence agencies. She regularly appears on "*NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt,*" "*TODAY*", and "*Meet the Press with Chuck Todd.*"

Mitchell has previously reported on the arms control summits held by U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet Head of State Mikhail Gorbachev, the diplomatic normalization with Cuba, the Iran nuclear negotiations, and conflicts in Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo, along with assignments in Iraq, Afghanistan, Iran, North Korea, Pakistan, Israel, and the Palestinian territories. She also held a series of exclusive interviews with Cuba's late President Fidel Castro. In reference to American politics, Mitchell has covered every U.S. presidential campaign for *NBC News* since 1980, most recently as the lead correspondent on Hillary Clinton's 2016 campaign.

Mitchell has received numerous awards, including the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Women's Media Foundation, the 2015 MATRIX Award from New York Women in Communications as one of the "Women Who Change the World," and the Goldsmith Career Award for Excellence in Journalism from the John F. Kennedy School of Government; she was also chosen by the Society for Professional Journalists for their Lifetime Achievement Award.

"What was already going to be a thought-provoking program will be enhanced significantly by having a professional journalist serve as moderator," said Michael Debraggio, Hamilton's Associate Vice President for Communications.

"And who better to facilitate a discussion featuring two foreign policy experts than Andrea Mitchell, a well-known, award-winning foreign affairs correspondent."

The April 11 program combines the College's Sacerdote Great Names Series with the new Common Ground program. According to President David Wippman, the initiation of the program comes in response to the sharp and escalating political polarization at home and abroad.

"The goal is for the speakers, one a Democrat, the other a Republican, to model the kind of respectful dialogue across political boundaries that should occur not just on college campuses, but in the broader society as well," Wippman said.

"With capable speakers on both sides of a given issue, each willing to acknowledge strengths in the position of the other, we aim to encourage students and other audience members to question their own assumptions and consider carefully the evidence and arguments supporting other viewpoints."

The program is free and open to the public, although tickets are required. Information about tickets will be released in March.

Bundy Hall residents report suffering from water temperature issues

by Isabel Kierstead '21
Staff Writer

The residents of Bundy Hall, predominantly sophomores, have dealt with severe water issues in both the showers and with the sinks for much of the school year. Residents complain about scorching hot water, as well as the complete opposite, with the showers never able to warm to an aprporaite temperature.

"I've had no hot water twice...literally the saddest days of my life. Both days were in winter and all I wanted to do was take a hot shower," said Kate Everett '20. "[I'm] not sure what's been done to fix it but I'm checking into a hotel if it happens again."

With many Bundy residents already feeling stuck with one of the more unfortunate locations on campus, they see this water issue as just another issue residents have to deal with. Many say that they are completely unable to get hot water during their showers, and it has become a rising joke amongst those living down the hill.

"Being a big fan of the hot shower, it has been slightly unsettling to hop in only to be greeted by a cold splash," said Cole Kroninger '20.

On the other hand, many residents have been met with intensely hot water, and the ability to turn down the temperature is completely beyond their control.

"Every time the toilet flushes, it gets scorching hot for a second but it goes back to normal pretty quickly." said Mason Sheridan '20. The extremities of the water temperature has generated discontentment throughout Bundy East and West, and a major source of discussion on campus.

"It was fixed for a bit in the beginning of the semester, but four weeks in and we're back to square one," said Vince Sorrentino, '20. Many thought that the water issues that they had been experiencing all year would finally vanish, but they have only returned with perseverance to annoy the residents of Bundy.

However, the Physical Plant, lacking continued student complaints, was under the impression that the water temperature issue had been fixed after receiving prior work orders. Upon my calling them, they were genuinely surprised that Bundy residence hall was still having issues with the showers, and were not aware that the issue was in both the communal showers and the individual ones.

"We received two work orders from individual rooms in the beginning of February," said William Huggins, Associate Director of Physical Plant for Building Services. "But we have not had any complaints directed to the Physical Plant since then."

Although the water temperature continues to be an issue, it was not brought up again to Physical Plant since the beginning of the semester, when students briefly had access to sufficiently heated showers.

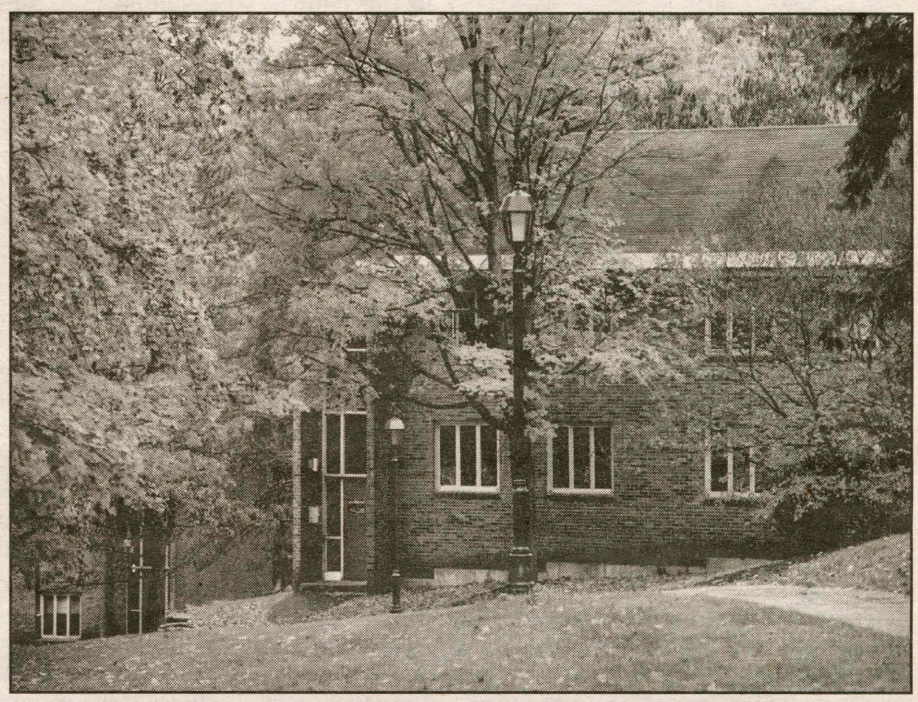

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE/NANCY FORD

Bundy Hall, pictured above, has been plagued with water issues for much of the 2017-18 academic year.

"This is one of the things we prioritize. We do not want any of the students experiencing major living issues like this," said Huggins. "But we cannot help if we are not aware that the problem has returned!"

Fixes done to the heating systems in the beginning of the semester have not been permanent, but those involved with building services have yet to be informed of the issue. Until they are able to permanently fix the showers' heating systems, the Bundy residents will have to continue to contend with the frigid temperatures and cold water. *Luckily, this week has given them some respite in the former deparment.*

Menstrual Hygiene Initative struggles to find funding following a year of Student Assembly financing

by Sarah Salimi '20
Staff Writer

Last semester, Hamilton College's Student Assembly created the Menstrual Hygiene Initiative (MHI). It was the brainchild of Cesar Domènech, who was a Class Representitve for the Class of 2020 at the time. His inspiration came during a trip to Brown University for a Model United Nation conference last spring. On this trip, he observed that all of the bathrooms he utilized had baskets of menstrual hygiene products like. pads and tampons.

Impressed by what he saw, Domènech decided to pursue a similar initiative at Hamilton. He felt that this would tangibly benefit the community. Moreover, he believed the College's small size would make it possible to test-run the idea.

Because of this, Domènech contacted students at Brown University who had worked to implement the program. Working alongside Student Assembly President Nadav Konforty '20 and Student Assembly representative Jordan D'Addio '20, Domènech began the process of building a coalition to implement his idea. His plan was to stock all of the first floor residential bathrooms on campus, including male, female, and all-gender facilities. The school was divided into zones, and Student Assembly members volunteered to be in charge of particular zones. In addition, when it became clear the effort would be exhaustive if only Student Assembly members aided in the process, other students stepped in to help. They would take turns restocking supplies bi-weekly. Posters went up announcing the new initiative. A survey was sent out asking students how they liked the new initiative, and the responsive was overwhelmingly positive. Eventually, it became evident that the bathrooms would have to be restocked weekly to meet the demand.

Despite its initial success, however, the problem did suffer some setbacks, as funding was an issue from the outset. The pilot program diverted funds from the Student Assembly budget. This amounted to a signifcant amount of their budget. Connie Lorente '20 — a member of the Facilities Committee who has played a leading role in the Initiative during Domènech's absence — explains that it is not "sustainable" to continue to use Student Assembly funding if the initiative is to be permanent, as it is intended to be. Currently, the Student Assembly has put the Initiative on pause and is working with the office of Dean Martinez to obtain special funding. Such funding would not just cover the cost of the hygiene products themselves, but also would go toward the purchasing of dispensers.

Another issue was students taking too many products. This led to needing to restock supplies quite frequently. Lorente had the idea of installing dispensers that have a delay time. She believes this delay time would deter people from taking more product than they actually need. "But, this also costs money," explains Lorente, reiterating the need for special funding if the initiative is to continue in future semesters.

Additionally, another necessary change to the MHI will be deciding who is actually responsible for refilling the supplies. Lorente finds that the task-force model is "unreliable."

She explains: "Everyone was really great and dedicated to it. But, being a student creates an obstacle." She goes on to explain how balancing academic and extracurricular commitments made it difficult to regularly restock the bathrooms. "It would still get done, but it wasn't as systematic as we would have liked. People very much took turns based on how their weeks were looking. A lot was up in the air."

Lorente believes that having Physical Plant staff responsible for the restocking would make the initiative much more reliable: "They are much more dependable when it comes to this type of thing than students. It would be just like making sure there is enough toilet paper in restrooms. "

Physical Plant has since pledged their full support for the initiative pending approval of its funding.

Student Assembly values this Initiative for its pragmatism as well as its message of inclusion. In the words of Konforty '20, the initiative "intends to be a safety net for people who may simply forget these hygiene products one day." Lorente mirrored this logic as she described her conversations with Domènech surrounding the initiative: "He just thought, 'Why should this be another thing stressing students out? We don't need that. Wouldn't it be nice if the school did something to alleviate this stress?'"

For Domènech, it seemed so simple and attainable of a solution to make students' lives on campus easier. However, he also wanted to avoid this program becoming an exclusive one. "We put them [hygiene products] in all the bathrooms because we recognize that menstruation is not an experience that only affects cis-gendered female bodies," Lorente says. "Cisgender women aren't the only ones who get their periods. We need to remember that."

Currently, Student Assembly is in talks with Dean Martinez to receive special funding so that this initiative — currently on pause — may continue in future semesters.

Asian Students Association to hold celebration in honor of the Chinese Lunar New Year

by Noelle Connors '21
Staff Writer

This Friday, Feb. 23, the Asian Students Association (ASA) will hold a Lunar New Year celebration. The celebration will take place from 6-8 P.M. in the Annex, and will include festive food and a viewing of the movie *Mulan*. The event is meant to symbolize the large family gaterings that occur in Chinese families during the Lunar New Year. The event will celebrate Lunar New Year, which occurred this year on Feb. 16.

The Lunar New Year is one of the world most prominent and celebrated holidays, and is heavily celebrated both inside and outside of China. The origins of the New Year festival are associated with different founding myths and origins stories. The holiday has been used as time to celebrate ancestors. The celebration of Lunar New Year has gained more recognition in the United States over the past several years, and in 2016, New York City Department of Education public schools recieved the day off, due to the number of students who were not attending so that they could family celebrations. The first Chinese New Year event held in the United States was held in San Fransisco in 1858, where the Chinese poplation was expanding rapidly due to the Gold Rush. Named the "San Francisco Chinese New Year Festival and Parade," it remains the largest celebration of the Chinese New Year outside of Asia, just as San Fransisco remains one of the largest areas for Chinese-Americans to reside.

According to Jonathan Dong '21, a member of the Asian Students Association, people celebrate Lunar New Year differently in different countries. All of the celebrations involve food, getting together with family, and honoring one's ancestors. For this reason, ASA hosts a dinner where the campus can come together around a shared meal.

"As an Asian -American, this holiday holds a dear place in my heart, as this holiday drives people to come together and celebrate in honor of family, prosperity, fortune and overall happiness," Dong said. "That being said, we at the Asian Student Association also want to use this event to bring everyone together and celebrate the community found on campus."

Often, these celebrations serve many lucky foods, many of which will be served on Friday. According to Dong, the traditional foods served will include, "egg rolls, sweet and sour pork, vegetable fried rice, vegetable lo mein and dumplings." While across China and the Chinese diaspora there is a wide variety in the foods enjoyed, vegetarian dumplings are universally favored. In additoin, members of the Chinese diaspora have added to the traditional foods eaten in China, often incorporating traditions from where they now live.

Many celebrations also involve the lucky color red. In some countries, people exchange red envelopes filled with money for the holiday. These envelopes are often specifically handed out to children. In China, there are also performances of a "Dragon "Dance" or "Lion Dance." Many countries celebrate the occasion with fireworks and firecrackers, though recently that tradition has faded due to the danger associated with such activities. In addition, lanterns and flowers, often red and pink colored, are used to decorate homes and public spaces of those celebrating the holiday. This upcoming year on the Zodiac calendar is the Year of the Dog.

Within Asia, workers who live apart from their extended families often travel home to where their extended family is situated. Since the holiday is based off the Lunar calendar, the date varies from year to year, although it usually falls between January and February.

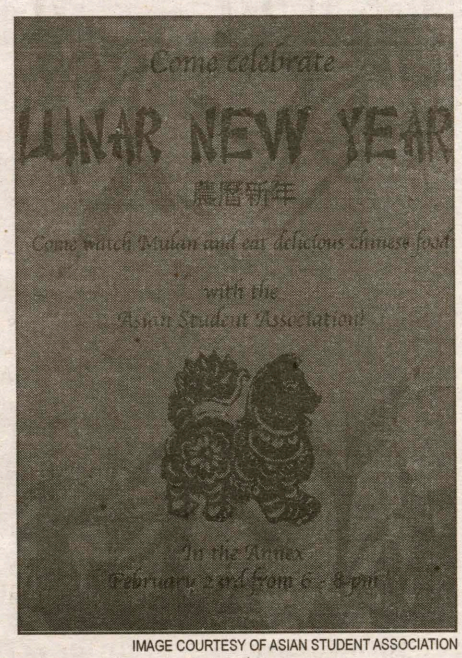

IMAGE COURTESY OF ASIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The promotional poster for the ASA's celebration.

Many students look forward to this celebration, which has become an annual tradition at Hamilton. "It's important to me because it's part of my tradition and reflects a lot of the cultural values I grew up with," Lilly Yangchen '20 said. "In my culture we celebrate the Lunar New Year with our families and we come together as a family. I think it's important for me to celebrate it here so I can have the same community at Hamilton."

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous weekend's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use their discretion regarding what is published.

Monday, February 12

12:55 A.M. Vehicle Towing – Faculty Lots
6:09 P.M. Mechanical Issue – Beinecke Village
9:30 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Griffin Road Apts.

Tuesday, February 13

1:23 A.M. Larceny – Taylor Science
1:49 A.M. Trespass – Eells House
3:35 A.M. Mechanical Issue – Skenandoa House
7:59 A.M. Medical Issue – Residence Hall
8:03 P.M. Assist KPD – College Hill Rd
8:21 P.M. Suspicious Incident/Hazardous Condition – 11 College Hill Rd
9:36 P.M. Maintenance Issue – Bundy West

Wednesday, February 14

5:53 A.M. Intrusion Alarm – Wellin Museum
4:09 P.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

Thursday, February 15

6:17 P.M. Maintenance Issue – Bundy Dining Hall
6:35 P.M. Fire Alarm – Woollcott House
9:47 P.M. Assist – Fieldhouse
9:55 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Beinecke Village

Friday, February 16

1:09 A.M. Concern for Welfare – Residence Hall
1:44 P.M. Motor Vehicle Accident – Physical Plant
4:32 P.M. Fire Alarm – The Little Pub
5:05 P.M. Motorist Assist – Root Lot
9:34 P.M. Fire Alarm – Keehn Hall

Saturday, February 17

12:56 A.M. Medical Emergency – Howard Diner
3:00 A.M. Domestic Incident – Milbank Hall
5:15 A.M. Marijuana Complaint – Keehn Hall
11:03 A.M. Concern for Welfare – Residence Hall
2:16 P.M. Motorist Assist – Root Lot
8:50 P.M. Concern for Welfare – Residence Hall
11:42 P.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

Sunday, February 18

1:15 A.M. Disorderly Conduct – Tolles Pavilion
1:52 A.M. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

In solidarity, against violence

In the wake of last week's shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida — in which seventeen people were needlessly murdered — high school and college students across the country have taken up common cause activism with aims of addressing gun control. Here at Hamilton, many clubs and organizations, following the lead of the Black and Latinx Student Union (BLSU), organized a protest and remembrance event on Feb. 19 that encouraged all community members to wear black in solidarity with the victims of the shooting and the survivors who have spoken out in its wake. While approaches to ending this scourge differ profoundly, addressing senseless violence appears to be a bipartisan common cause of sorts, as evidenced by the fact that, at the prodding of BLSU, both the College Democrats and Republicans sent out the email reminding their respective members to wear black for Monday's protest.

BLSU, following up on its online activism, has also organized a rally, which will take place on Friday, Feb. 23 from 4:30-6:30 PM and is open to the community and aims to address the shooting and potential steps for gun reform. As we as a community and country continue to grapple with another senseless act of violence in the form of a mass shooting (the 34th of the 2018, according to the Gun Violence Archive), there is no question that change is necessary. How, when, and where that change will take place remains to be seen, and while proposed policies will differ across the political spectrum, it is apparent that this change can, should, and will be driven by the younger generations of America. The Spectator stands in solidarity with BLSU and all other organizations and individuals that seek to address the epidemic of gun violence in the country.

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Letters to the Editor Policy

The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

The Spectator editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.

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About Us

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Responding to problematic discourse on campus: how social media can threaten freedom of expression

by Jared Mandelbaum '18
Contributing Writer

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR /ADAM FAGEN

I am writing this article to address what I view as problematic discourse on our campus. Before delving into my argument, I would like to recognize that I am a straight, white, cis, financially comfortable male. I speak from a place of immense privilege and I think it would be inappropriate to ignore that fact when entering into the sphere of public discussion. With that said, I see three evident problems that permeate discourse on campus and I will explain each of them in detail.

First, arguments are often made without appropriately addressing the larger issues of which they are a part of. An example of this is when an argument focuses solely on rhetoric used in a discussion concerning marginalized groups. There is no inherent problem in addressing the specific details of any discussion (or argument, movement, etc.), but focusing attention on those details without regard for the overarching, and undoubtedly more important, issues that are the intended foci of the discussion ignores essential context.

If I were to make a post on social media expressing my discontent with specific language used in a Women's March's speech without at least briefly mentioning my viewpoint on the March itself, I would be guilty of drawing attention away from the issues of real importance. Choosing to focus exclusively on the language used in a speech while neglecting to address the goals of the march would suggest that I care more about the minutiae of the march than its actual impact.

Furthermore, with such a post, I would be effectively ignoring the daily oppression women face. Arguments concerning the oppression of marginalized groups that neglect to recognize the pain and struggle resulting from marginalization trivialize the experiences and suffering of our peers.

The second problem evident in campus discourse is something I will refer to as "combative voices." These combative voices end conversations before they begin, as they demonstrate hatred and a lack of empathy and are simply unkind.

Before giving examples, I want to draw a sharp distinction between combative voices and passionate voices. I recognize that those who argue passionately or even angrily are often criticized for their demeanor. I vehemently disagree with these criticisms. Passion is an essential part of discourse in any sphere. Without passion, I feel that meaningful discussion is hardly possible. Combative voices are a problem because they extinguish conversations; passionate voices do not.

I see many examples of combative voices on social media and in conversation. The two main manifestations of combative voices are name-calling and direct demands to end conversations. Name-calling occurs on social media as well as in conversation, while demands to end discussions seem only to occur on social media. I have personally seen and heard many instances of Hamilton students calling other students, whose arguments they disagree with, inappropriate and nasty names. On social media, I have watched these comments get many "likes," and in conversations, I rarely hear criticisms of this name-calling; I am often silent myself.

Direct demands to end discussions on social media are easily identifiable, as they specifically state that a conversation should be stopped regardless of any progress that may have been made. Examples of these demands are, "Shut the fuck up," or "How about you educate yourself before talking to me." It is worth noting that I take no issue with someone ending a conversation because they are genuinely uncomfortable. Combative voices, however, terminate conversations because of an obvious unwillingness to understand opposing viewpoints.

This is unquestionably not an effective way to engage our peers. The name-calling and demands to end conversation that characterize combative voices are condescending, rude, and hurtful, but most importantly, they severely stifle discourse on our campus. Additionally, they target specific members of our community in inappropriate ways. This leads to the third problem I will address regarding discourse at Hamilton.

This final problem is the conflation of arguments with those who make them. Appropriate discourse surrounding any issue on campus should focus on the arguments that are being made without vilifying our peers who present them. While members of our community often do make this distinction, I have seen numerous cases in which those who present even somewhat controversial opinions endure attacks on their characters. This is unacceptable, as it discourages free expression of thought. We should foster spaces where our arguments can be contested without leading to attacks on our characters.

When I mentioned to various friends that I planned to write an article in *The Spectator* about problematic discourse on campus, almost every one of them asked why I would make myself vulnerable to attack. While these responses were reasonable given the climate surrounding discourse on our campus, they indicate the very problem I am addressing. No one was worried about my argument being attacked; they feared a condemnation of my character.

It seems to me that many students on this campus are afraid to publicly express their viewpoints for fear of enduring assaults on their respective moralities. Whether these attacks occur in conversations, on social media, or in school publications, the threat is real, and the fear is palpable. Given what seems to be widespread apprehension about open and honest discussions on campus, I believe that we, as Hamilton College students, need to reform the ways in which we approach discourse.

If progress is to be made concerning any issue on campus, we need to have meaningful, productive conversations. These conversations begin with listening and empathy. Ignoring essential context, shutting down discussions, and attacking the characters of our peers who publicly share their opinions stifles discourse. Everyone has the common desire to be heard, understood, and treated with respect. The current discourse on our campus does not consistently respect these desires, but we have the power to change that. Prioritizing listening and empathy will enable us to effectively and respectfully engage in constructive dialogue. This form of discourse, regardless of our goals, is the key to our success.

Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
Steamers. All kinds. We accord specific merit to the beverages, I was in line at Opus and heard three consecutive people order them. Powerful stuff! **Dorm renovations. We got new paint in Milbank! A bright and vibrant red. Maybe more crimson. Deep.**	**Insects in dorms. I saw a cockroach on my desk the other day. This is horrifying. Fix this in the renovations, please please.** **Summer is approaching. Internships and summer research and crippling loneliness. Huzzah.**	**Pub Lunch. We've been a couple of times, everyone. Take it from us…it really isn't THAT good.** **I'm pretty sure the Thrift Store was just selling stolen goods as a scam to raise money for a frat. #Conspiracy.**

by Zach Deming '20 and Ethan Dunn '20

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

PUB POWER must force campus to recognize privilege and broach uncomfortable conversations

by Julia Dupuis '21
Staff Writer

When I first came to Hamilton, the Little Pub felt like a distant concept. I heard about it only in passing — called a "man cave" by a girl in my class or laughed about in a club meeting for its majority white male patrons. From all of these scattered references and jokes, I could sense an underlying message: the Little Pub was not meant for me.

The one time I stopped by for lunch with a friend, we left after discovering we were the only two women in the room. It is impossible to describe the discomfort, vulnerability, and isolation of being the only women in a male-dominated space.

This experience is not an unfamiliar one. I can pull up countless examples in my own life: stepping into a math class where I was the only girl, dropping the basketball team because my all male teammates would not pass to me, or having a class discussion on LGBTQ rights as the only queer person in the room.

For all of American history, white men have been both the dominant and default group. It has been mostly white men in charge and it has been the white male experience against which all others have been defined.

Even though women's rights have come a long way in the recent years, it is still a work in progress. Women are in the workforce in record numbers, but often struggle to achieve high leadership roles. Sexual assault and harassment is more visible than ever, and yet it is still happening at astounding rates.

Women are more involved in public life and create more of the media that society consumes, and yet we make up just nineteen percent of Congress and 33 percent of speaking roles in the top-grossing films.

As a woman, I have always been hyper-aware of the space I take up. I was raised like that — to sit with closed legs, not talk or laugh too loudly, to take up as little room in the world as possible.

As a white person, I have never had to be conscious about race in social spaces. I have never walked into a room and felt out of place, and I have rarely encountered a situation that made me feel like a minority.

Whether we are aware of it or not, these power dynamics trickle down into every aspect of our lives: from how we sit and where we choose to sit, to what we say and how we decide to say it, to what we wear and how we are treated when we walk down the street.

> **"It all comes down to the simple fact that it is uncomfortable to live, learn, and grow in a place that is overwhelmingly populated by the dominant or privileged group."**

The PUB POWER movement is about reclaiming public spaces and asserting that they belong to this whole community.

At its core, it is about acknowledging that a space exists where certain minorities may not feel welcome, providing a platform for those individuals to assemble, and then taking concrete action to fix it. It is a simple act, but one that is steeped in power and resistance.

PUB POWER has faced backlash because it exposes the the fact that power, identity and social spaces are all closely intertwined. It disrupts the comfortable fantasy that places like the Little Pub are inherently apolitical and neutral spaces.

To many women on this campus, the Little Pub has felt like a shelter for white masculinity. I personally never felt comfortable there because I saw it as a "boy's club" — a place where men got together to be men, and not a place where I saw myself encouraged to exist.

Even if you are a woman, a person of color or a member of the LGBT community, you may still have been exempt from this feeling of isolation and marginalization. To share an identity with others is only to share in one aspect of a multifaceted reality, and every lived experience is different. Just because you have always interpreted the Little Pub as a harmless, unbiased space does not mean that it is that way for everybody.

Regardless of your personal experience, the reality is that a significant number of people on this campus have expressed feeling uncomfortable, inferior and outnumbered in the Little Pub. Even though white men going to The Little Pub is not inherently sexist, and this marginalization is not a deliberate or malicious act, it is indicative of something much bigger. It all comes down to the simple fact that it is uncomfortable to live, learn, and grow in a place that is overwhelmingly populated by the dominant or privileged group. Instead of just avoiding these places that feel unwelcoming, PUB POWER is taking a stand to fight complacency.

Not only is the movement dedicated to disrupting the norm of the Little Pub as a male-oriented space, but it encourages people who have previously felt unwelcome to reclaim this space as belonging to them too.

The Little Pub is known as a well-loved and popular campus space and coming to the realization that it might not be this way for everybody can be uncomfortable. I encourage you to challenge your discomfort, question why this movement threatens you, and bite back the initial impulse to dismiss this as "victimization."

These social spaces belong to all of us. The bodies that embody these spaces make an important statement about the culture and values of the space itself as well as the institution it represents.

The Little Pub belongs to each and every one of us, both literally and figuratively. In the purest sense, a public space is meant to instill a sense of belonging — that we are a part of a larger community and that, in turn, this community belongs to all of us.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PUB POWER FACEBOOK GROUP

Alumni Spotlight: William Williams '73

by Gabrielle Colchete '21
STAFF WRITER

As Black History Month comes to an end, it is important to remember Hamilton alumni who have made their own impact on black history. One particular alumnus, William E. Williams '73, has spent much of his career as a photographer exploring the overlooked aspects of the African-American experience in the United States.

After completing his Master of Fine Arts at Yale University, Williams photographed forgotten historical sites connected to the Underground Railroad and the Civil War. When he visited Hamilton last October to lead a gallery talk in the Wellin Museum, Williams discussed one of his gelatin silver prints hanging in the exhibition, Site of Utica Rescue. He explained that this print is part of his Uncovering the Path to Freedom collection, which focuses on Underground Railroad sites.

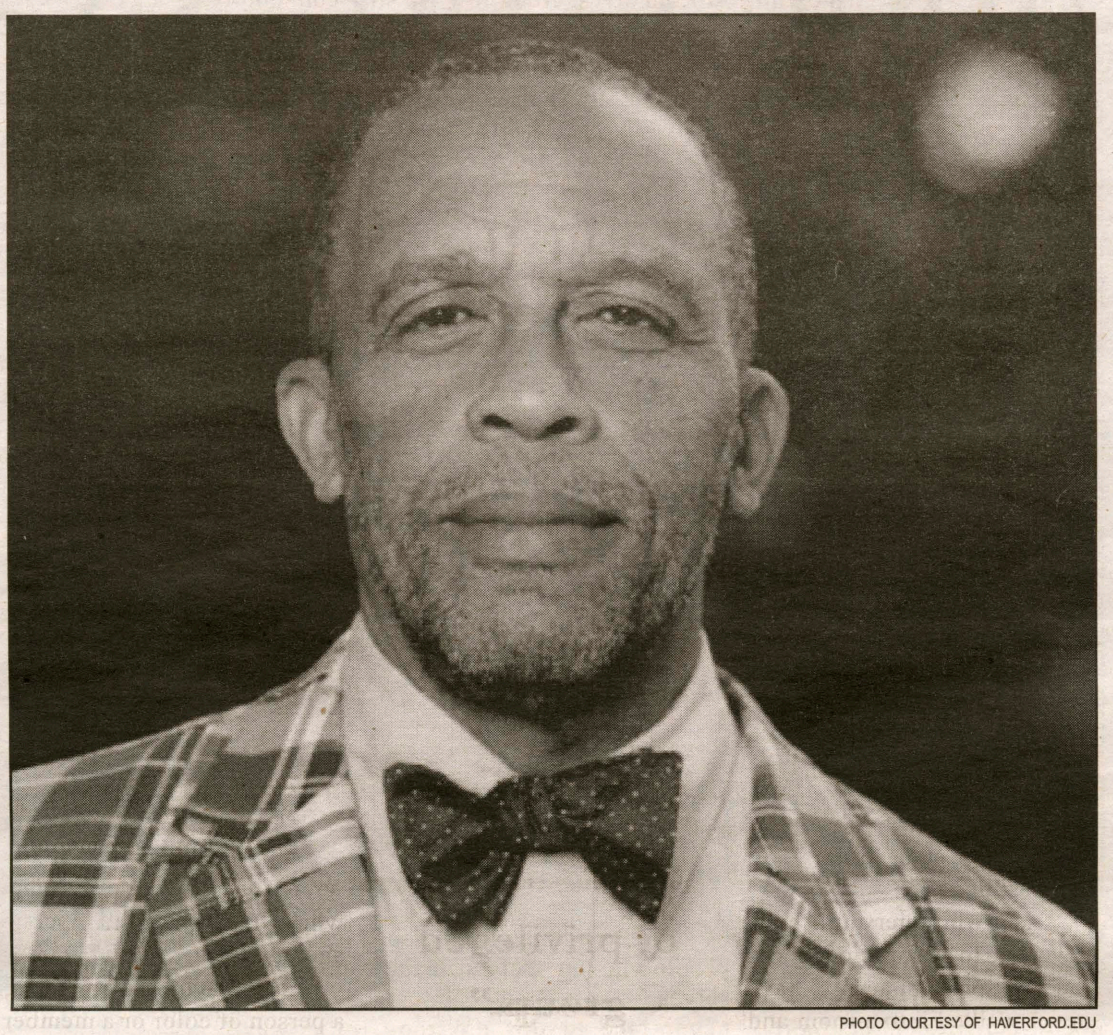


PHOTO COURTESY OF HAVERFORD.EDU

William Williams '73 is the Audrey A. and John L. Dusseau Professor in the Humanities and Professor of Fine Arts at Haverford College.

At first glance, the photograph appeared to show the outside of a rickey, old building, with a tattered American flag hung next to the entrance. Williams revealed that this building was once a courthouse where two fugitive slaves were rescued by abolitionists in 19th century Utica.

Williams mentioned during his talk that he uses his photography to "fill a void." Robert Knight, Professor of Art, shares his interpretation of this statement: "Willie's images ask us to reconsider the treatment of African-Americans, through both contemporary and historical narratives. His recent project photographing sites connected with the Underground Railroad suggests that despite progress towards racial equality in recent generations, the impact and legacy of slavery and the experience of African-Americans remains profoundly troubling and unresolved. This is the 'void' that Williams's work attempts to address."

Williams, who is currently Professor of Fine Arts at Haverford College, continues to try to fill this "void" through his ongoing "underground railroad" project. His attempts to draw attention to these often overlooked aspects of the African-American experience in the U.S speaks to the reason that there is a Black History Month in the first place.

Williams continues to be an active alumnus of the College to this day — both through his donations and visits to campus. He has donated a wide variety of photographic works to Hamilton College, both his own and from other artists.

Robert Knight shares his experience with Williams after meeting him during his gallery talk in October: "What struck me about my time with him was the genuine enthusiasm, kindness and generosity that he expressed, not only towards me, but towards everyone that I saw him interact with that weekend."

After succeeding both as an artist and educator, Williams remains a strong role model for Hamilton students who wish to pursue a career in the arts. He has made a significant impact on Black History by exploring it in his projects, and will likely continue to do so for the rest of his career.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LIGHTWORK.COM, BY WILLIAM WILLIAMS 2003

PHOTO COURTESY OF LIGHTWORK.COM, BY WILLIAM WILLIAMS 2003

Left: Grace Wilson's Apple Orchard, site of the Great Fugitive Slave Act Convention of 1850, Cazenovia, New York. Right: Clinton Square, Jerry Rescue Demonstration Site, Syracuse, New York.

How confidential is the Counseling Center?

by Peter Case '21
STAFF WRITER

ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG '20

On a campus divided into lightside and darkside, it can be easy to fall into the trap of divisiveness, propagating a culture of othering. In this once-dark and dismal winter, however, there is one thing that can unite the campus: stress. Stress is ubiquitous in Hamilton life, and, as such, many students turn to the Counseling Center for therapy and emotional help.

But who receives the information that students divulge to the counselors? Who has access to your outpourings? Who has the ability to act on information given in a therapeutic setting? Will the counselors tell your parents? Your coach? The Dean? According to Counseling Center Director and Staff Psychologist David Walden, Ph.D, counselors are required by New York State law to maintain student confidentiality, with a few notable exceptions.

"Because we are licensed by the state in which we practice, then our confidentiality is governed by state law," Walden said. "We can't even divulge that a student is coming to (the Counseling Center)." As clients of the Counseling Center, students are entitled to the same level of doctor-patient confidentiality as any private practice.

"There are three circumstances in which we can and, according to law, should break confidentiality," Walden says

"The first is imminent risk of suicide, second is imminent risk of homicide, and third is if we know of active abuse of children or the elderly, so people who can't defend themselves — which we almost never face in this environment." Within the language of the law, however, there is room for interpretation.

"The language in the law is 'imminent risk,' which is an interpretable phrase. The way I interpret it and the way [the Counseling Center] interprets it is that there needs to be a very specific and time-defined intent that we feel we know about and can't prevent in any other way."

While students may feel as if there is a possibility of collusion between the Counseling Center and school officials, and may fear repercussions from items discussed in therapy, the reality is that barring the three extenuating circumstances (suicide, homicide, abuse of the incapable), the Counseling Center is bound by law to maintain confidentiality.

In fact, according to Director Walden, the administration rarely makes attempts to access client information, and even if they did, the student always reserves the right to bar the voluntary sharing of information between the Counseling Center and the administration.

"My experience as the director of the Counseling Center has been that the administration has not pressured [me] to release information about students and in fact, the opposite is true. They have been incredibly respectful of my boundaries around that, and that makes my job much easier."

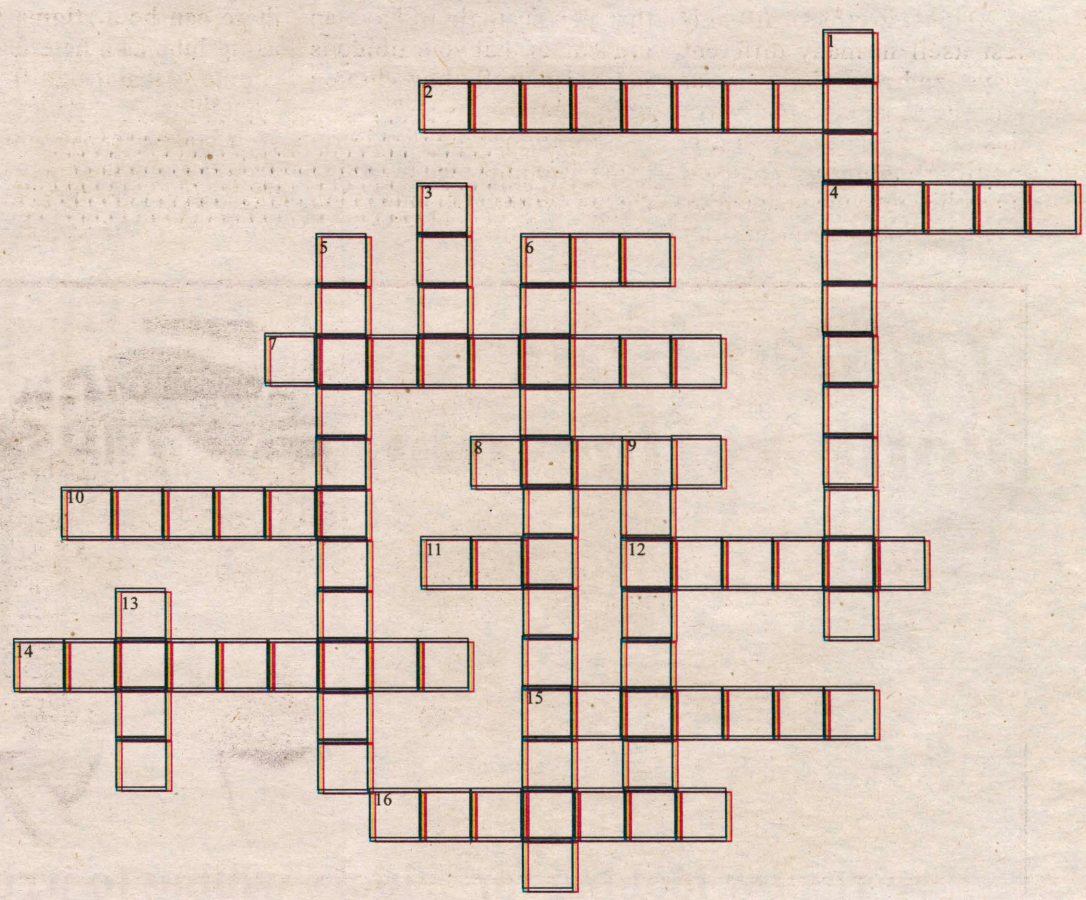
So, do not hold back if you go down to the Counseling Center. The counselors there know what they are doing, and they are trained (and paid) to help in whatever ways they can. The only thing harder than opening up is keeping it bottled inside. Rest easy knowing your confidentiality is safe, and that you are not alone in your endeavour to live a better life. In the words of Director Walden, "We are all trying to look out for each other."

As winter weather continues to set in, we wanted to cheer you up. With March break in the not-too-distant future, take a stab at this winter-themed crossword to get you through the next three weeks.

by Cilly Geranios '19 and Molly Geisinger '19
MANAGING EDITOR AND FEATURES EDITOR

Across:
2. Painfully frozen body parts.
4. A warm caffeinated beverage you cannot make for yourself at Commons or McEwen.
6. "____, _____ baby."
7. Perfectly unique.
8. The island movie which recently came out that we're all watching (let's be honest).
10. A chore children do to clear the sidewalks at home.
11. Req. cough drops and rest to cure.
12. Worn to keep your hands warm.
14. A gift on Valentine's Day and also possibly heated as a beverage.
15. A treacherous form of transportation at this time of year.
16. On many beds to warm sleeping bodies and cuddle up to for naps.

Down:
1. The place on campus you visit for #13 down and #11 across.
3. A form of clearing the streets of snow.
5. Many professors may have decided to do this in response to the weather—warming the hearts of students.
6. Creating the homes of eskimos.
9. Below zero.
13. The kissing disease.



Answers: ACROSS: 2. frostbite, 4. latte, 6. ice, 7. snowflake, 8. Moana, 10. shovel, 11. flu, 12. gloves, 14. chocolate, 15. driving, 16. blanket. DOWN: 1. Health Center, 3. plow, 5. cancel class, 6. igloo building, 9. negative, 13. mono.

SEX & the Campus: Doing it on Antidepressants

by Lucy Munves '19
Head Production Editor

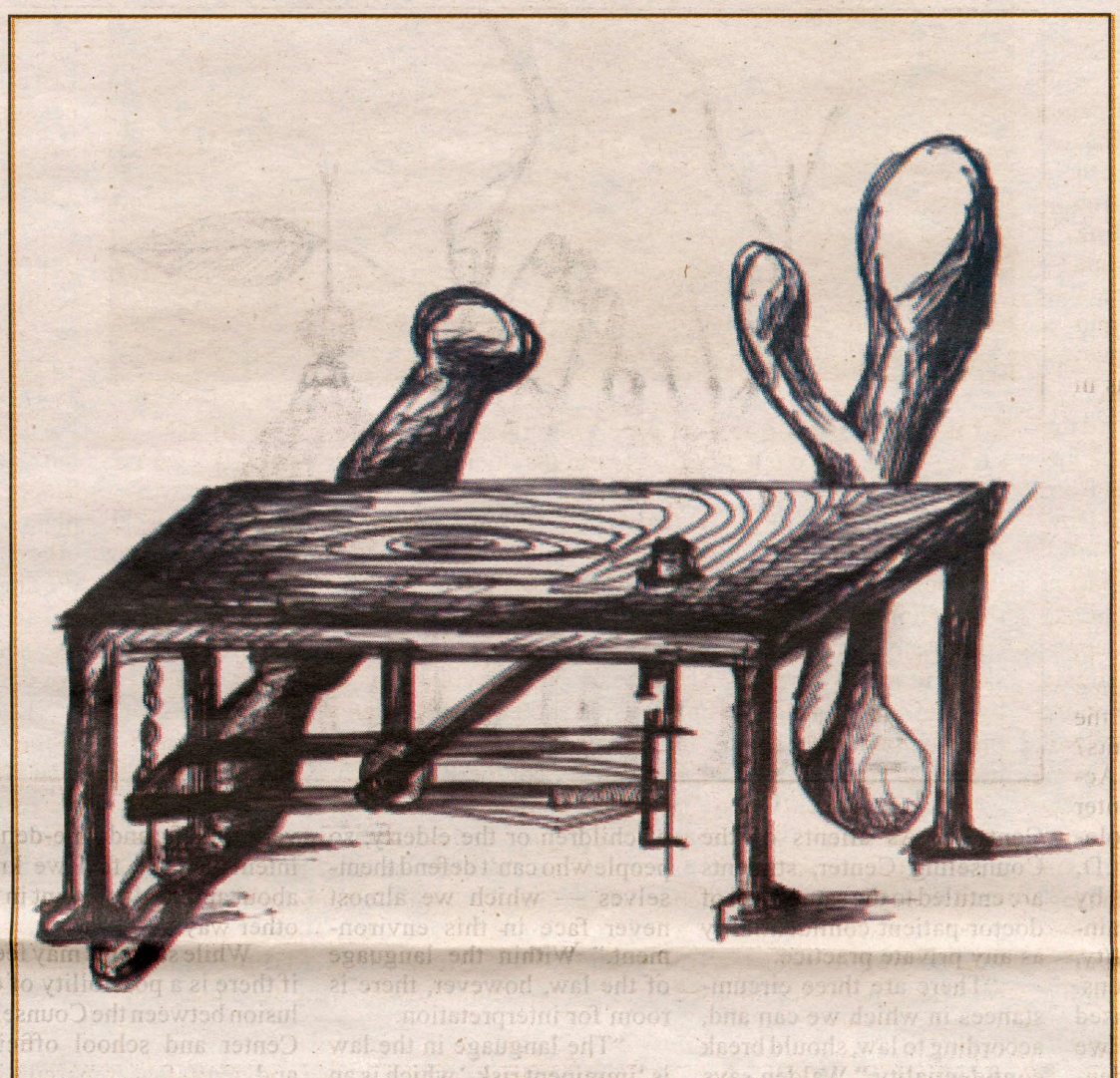


ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG '20

Okay, so it's no secret that mental health has become a pervasive issue both on this campus and nationwide. But let's talk about how this topic intersects with another one that is frequently discussed on campus: sex and hookup culture.

Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) can be an effective way to help manage anxiety or depression in combination with therapy. In fact, according to The *New York Times*, up to 30 percent of college students take these medications, nearly tripling usage in the past twenty years.

These drugs work by increasing the function of nerve cells in the brain. Serotonin is a neurotransmitter that is released when signals are sent between brain cells. When the serotonin is reabsorbed into the brain cell, this process is called "reuptake."

Basically, SSRIs slow the reuptake process, allowing for the neurotransmitter to build and be more available so that signals can be properly sent throughout the brain. SSRIs can be immensely beneficial to those who take them, but do have some significant side effects. The most prevalent side effect, especially in young adults, is the inhibition of sexual desire and function.

This side effect can manifest itself in many different ways, and sometimes not at all. The most common ways this is experienced is in difficulty becoming aroused or achieving orgasm. For women, this may mean that you have trouble producing naturally occurring lubrication, making penetrative sex painful.

For men, it may mean that you have trouble getting or maintaining an erection. For both parties, it can mean that you struggle to have an orgasm, or that your libido is inconsistent. So how do you mitigate these issues?

Foreplay. Foreplay. Foreplay! The importance of this cannot be understated. Think you've done enough? Do more. Trust me.

Lube. Lube is absolutely your best friend (really in any sexual scenario). If you're just not getting wet, this can make penetration much less painful, and initial foreplay a lot smoother. I know that there can be a stigma about using lube as a heterosexual couple — that it signifies that something is "wrong" with your body because you can't be wet enough on your own, but realistically, 99 percent of the time lube is an underutilized necessity. There are lots of different kinds, including: water-based, silicone-based, and flavored, among others. I would recommend starting with a water-based one, as it's not too messy and washes out of your sheets easily.

Patience. This is an important one. Be patient with yourself and your partner. It's okay to not be in the mood every night. Your libido can vary greatly when you take SSRIs, which can also greatly affect your level of arousal. Taking some time to experiment with yourself can be helpful to figure out what does or does not turn you on. No matter what, it takes time to figure these things out. Listen to your body. Pushing through the discomfort just because your partner wants to have sex is not the thing to do.

Communication. If you feel comfortable doing so, have a conversation with your partner about the fact that you take SSRIs and how they affect your sex life. It may be awkward and uncomfortable at first, but it can help open lines of communication that make you exponentially more comfortable and sex more enjoyable. Helping your partner understand what you need when you're having sex will make the experience better for the both of you.

It may also make you feel less anxious if you were afraid that your partner didn't think you were attracted to them because you weren't getting aroused. Having these conversations can help your partner better understand the way your body works, and this will lead to a better experience overall.

All in all, everyone experiences these side effects differently. The most important thing to remember is that there's nothing to be ashamed of. If you feel more mentally and physically well when taking SSRIs, then that's all that matters. Figuring out how to have sex that is best for both you and your partner will come with time (pun intended).

When will your reflection show...

... your experience at Hamilton?

We're now looking for seniors willing to write about their reflections. If you're interested, email us at featspec@hamilton.edu.

CAB Concert welcomes Lissie and Chris McClenney to the campus stage

by Emily Rivito '21
Contributing Writer

The Campus Activities Board's (CAB) Acoustic Coffeehouse Series returned on Thursday, Feb. 15 with singer-songwriter Lissie and opener Chris McClenney. Hot chocolate, coffee, apple cider, and chai tea were served with cookies, and five Clinton Pottery Mugs were sold in a raffle.

Chris McClenney is a 23-year-old musician from Maryland whose music takes inspiration from many different genres, including jazz, hip hop, and electronic. His set at Hamilton favored his electronic tastes, as he warmed the crowd up by DJ-ing an array of upbeat, electronic mixes, sampling from popular songs including, "This is How We Do It," "Finesse," "Too Good," and "Rock With You." He departed from the typical vibe of coffeehouse music, making it a surprising opening to the raw, stripped down music of Lissie. Yet, it helped bring more excitement and energy to the crowd after a tiring week of classes.

Lissie is a 35-year-old singer-songwriter who channels folk and rock aspects into her songs. Lissie performed acoustic versions of an array of songs spanning her four albums. She introduced herself with a guitar and a powerful voice that had both a commanding and intimate quality to it. Her warm and friendly personality took control of the entire Barn throughout the night.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KAJA BIELECKA '21

Singer-songwriter Lissie performs a set of acoustic songs in her solo act

Lissie showcased her strong vocal skills in songs such as "Shameless" by boldly declaring her opinions on the inauthentic state of the music industry. She performed her most well-known song, "When I'm Alone," in a slower tempo, while maintaining a voice that conveyed the passion of love and the undeniable dependence one can develop towards a person. In one of the songs, "Blood and Muscles," her voice climbed towards higher registers as she belted out, "I want a love that's made of blood and muscle."

Lissie's honest and expressive songwriting showed her talents as a storyteller, as well. She explained that she has been writing music since she was fifteen and has been using songwriting as a way to document her life's journey for the past twenty years.

The artist gave some background on her life, sharing in her song, "Oh Mississippi," about how she grew up in Rock City, Illinois along the Mississippi River. Lissie continued to show how writing music has become a method of reaction towards the world. "It's always relevant to empower women," the songstress said to the audience before singing her song, "Daughters."

The vulnerability of her songs gave Lissie an intimate quality found next to her dominating voice. "Don't You Give Up On Me," captured the emotions of desperately clinging to someone you care about. Her lyrics continued to be an example of emotional depth, with lines such as, "And, you keep on reminding me of a darkness only I can see." "Everywhere I Go," from her first album, asked for relief from suffering, as Lissie repeated the phrase, "And, I will fall on my knees." The singer lamented a lost love in the song, "In Sleep," singing, "In sleep is the only place I see him, get to love him." Another new song, "Best Days," showed the singer developing a sense of inner peace and optimism towards life as she sang, "The best days of my life are coming for me."

Lissie will be releasing her fourth album "Castles," on March 23 of this year. There is no denying that her music reflects the vibrancy of a natural performer and the emotional depth of a person constantly growing with their music. She provided a show filled with stories and electrifying vocals that fit perfectly into Hamilton CAB's Acoustic Coffeehouse Series.

Manual Cinema performs cinematic shadow puppetry show

by Michelle Chung '20
A&E Editor

In a darkened performance hall, five puppeteers and three musicians are seen on stage. The puppeteers, who have their backs to the audience, move their hands furiously as shadows show up across the projected screen. Clips of two young girls, seemingly sisters, run across the screen while ominous music reverberates in the background. Finally, the audience witnesses the screen project the title of the night's show: *Ada/Ava*.

Founded in 2010, Manual Cinema is a contemporary shadow puppetry performance group that combines shadow puppets with cinema. They are based in Chicago, IL, but visited the Hill as one of their tour destinations. The performance was a part of the Hamilton College Performing Arts Series and occurred on Feb. 16.

Manual Cinema boasts a number of collaborative works, including cinematic dance shows, musical stores, video productions, short documentaries, and more — all of which have been consistently well-received by a number of critics. In a collaboration with *The New York Times*, Manual Cinema helped to create shadow animations, a musical score, and sound design for their documentary short *The Forger*, which received an Emmy Award. Additionally, Manual Cinema has also created adaptations of stories and creative works for a Grammy award-winning ensemble, a *New York Times* Best Selling author, the Belgian Royal Opera, and various other museums around the country.

Ada/Ava is one of the five original feature length live cinematic shadow puppet shows created by Manual Cinema, all of which touch on intense storylines. Premiering in 2013, *Ada/Ava* follows the life of Ada as she faces the loss of her twin sister, Ava, while they are both of old age. Deeply distressed over her sister's death, Ada continuously lives in a supernatural world where the two of them are both alive and together. However, she finds herself confused and struggling to accept the reality of her sister's death, creating a dark story of family, mourning, and death.

The most incredible part of the show was how *Ada/Ava* came to be a beautifully engaging story with mainly two-dimensional puppets, three vintage overhead projecters, and five puppeteers. Because of the nature of the performance, the puppeteers of Manual Cinema all stood on stage with their backs to the audience and all the puppets' movements were projected onto a screen above them. Audience members could witness, however, the back-and-forth as puppeteers switched places or reached over one another. Two of the puppeteers played Ada and Ava and would walk across the projected screen to create shadows with more detailed and quicker movement. Besides the puppets and projectors, Manual Cinema also used a number of screens and live feed cameras to show how complex and intricate puppetry is as an artistic craft.

Another notable feature of *Ada/Ava* was the lack of spoken words and the emphasis on live music. Throughout the entire show, audience members only heard words from a radio broadcast and when musician Quinn Tsan twice performed lyrics of a song. Otherwise, small sound effects, instrumentals from musicians Alexander Babbitt and Alexander Ellsworth, or silence filled the room. The music in most scenes was haunting and slow at times, creating an ominous vibe that added to the intensity of the story even more.

While the word "puppetry" often sparks a specific visual (childhood memories of old socks, sewn-on buttons, and bunches of yarn glued everywhere), as an art, it can be much more complicated and beautiful. Manual Cinema managed to take puppetry and craft it into a unique and contemporary performance that illustrated deep, profound stories.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LEVANA LYU '21

Puppeteers from Manuel Cinema move their puppets and themselves across projected screens.

WHCL hosts the first "Snowchella" music festival during FebFest

by Josie Blatt '21
A&E Editor

WHCL, Hamilton College's radio station, hosted its first annual "Snowchella" on Friday, Feb. 16. Students filled the Annex from 8-11:30 p.m. to hear Drey, Julia Davis, Terrapin Trio, Uptown Booty, and Stink 182 perform at the festival.

Drey (Audrey Darnis '18) was the first act of the night and performed a thirty minute set of original songs and indie-alternative dream pop covers. One crowd favorite was Drey's enchanting original song "The Architect in My Mind is Here." Audience members could be heard saying, "I need a recording of that song!" Drey's soft yet powerful vocal tone and impressive guitar techniques delighted the crowd. For her closing song, "Look On Down From The Bridge" by Mazzy Star, Drey invited Chris Hart '19 to join her on stage to play the keyboard. Drey was an excellent start to the concert, and Hamilton students are looking forward to hopefully hearing more new music from her at future performances.

The next act, Julia Davis '20, performed six original songs. Davis' lyrics were artfully crafted. Her songs about topics that are common in pop songs, like love and heartbreak, sounded unique, clever, and thought-provoking. She also explored other themes, including the experience of still feeling like a child when you are in your twenties, in her song "Philadelphia." A few of the songs that Davis played were off of her EP, *Wild Child*, while others are songs that she wrote over the past few weeks. Davis also revealed that her album will be released in April and she has already recorded eight out of ten songs. Additionally, she asked the audience for opinions on two of her ideas for titles of the album: *Strings* and *Tourist Attraction*. The audience was leaning towards *Tourist Attraction*.

Up next was the Grateful Dead cover band, Terrapin Trio. Terrapin Trio, not actually a trio, is made up of Sam Kaplan '18 and Matt Lebowitz '18 on guitar and vocals, Joey Rokous '18 on bass, Anthony Reyes '20 on keyboard, Chris Lovejoy '18 on drums, and Sara Jadbabaie '21 on fiddle. "Snowchella" was Jadbabaie's debut as a member of Terrapin Trio, and she did not disappoint. In fact, her fiddle solos were some of the top highlights of the band's performance. Terrapin Trio performed six Grateful Dead songs, including "China Cat Sunflower," "I Know You Rider," "Shakedown Street," "Bertha," "Casey Jones," and "Johnny B Goode." Not only did Terrapin Trio showcase its members' musical abilities, but they also increased in energy and the crowd danced more and more as their set went on.

The fourth act was student band Uptown Booty. Uptown Booty consists of Kaplan on bass, Reyes on keyboard, Lovejoy on drums, and Carter Sanders '18 on guitar and vocals. Chris Victor '21 also joined the band on stage to sing Stevie Wonder's "Superstition." Victor was a wonderful addition to the band, as his powerful vocals and impressive range wowed the audience. The crowd was particularly enthusiastic when Uptown Booty covered "Mr. Brightside" by the Killers and "Valerie" by Amy Winehouse.

Finally, student band Stink 182 ended the concert. Stink 182 is a cover band that performs in the style of Green Day, Blink 182, and similar bands. Stink 182's members are Lovejoy on guitar and vocals, Rokus on bass, and Alex Scheuer '18 on drums. Stink 182's performance made Hamilton students nostalgic for the early 2000s. Highlights of their set included "Dirty Little Secret" by The All-American Rejects, "Sugar, We're Goin' Down" by Panic! At the Disco, and "The Anthem" by Good Charlotte.

Impressively, the several band members of Terrapin Trio, Uptown Booty, and Stink 182 who are in two or three of the bands (Reyes, Kaplan, Lovejoy, and Rokus) sustained energy and stamina throughout the night. Overall, Hamilton's first "Snowchella" was a great success, and students hope to see the festival return for next year's

PHOTO BY VICTOR LOU '21

Drey (Audrey Darnis '18) and Chris Hart '19 performed "Look on Down From the Bridge."

An interview with pianist Wu Han, who will soon perform at Wellin Hall

by Michelle Chung '20
A&E Editor

The Spectator had the opportunity to interview classical pianist Wu Han in light of her upcoming concert with her husband and cellist David Finckel. Named the "power couple of chamber music" by *The Wall Street Journal*, the two will be joined by violinist and founder of the Emerson String Quartet, Philip Setzer. The three will perform a set of concert pieces in Wellin Hall on Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is $20 for adults, $15 for senior citizens and Hamilton community, and $5 for students.

Q: How has your passion for music and performance shaped your career?

WH: The honest truth about being a performing artist is that it is a 24/7 job. Because regular practice is imperative to maintain one's playing at the highest level, and since there is always new repertoire to be learned, musicians' "office doors" never close and their minds never rest! The work is truly never done. So, if one isn't passionate about performing and the art form in general, it is quite simply impossible to survive. The fuel required to drive a performing career is a deep and unerring devotion to music and to our audiences. Such passion and devotion are essential in order to weather the most difficult aspects of a performance career – including challenges like long travel days and being away from one's home and family for long periods of time.

Q: How would you describe the style of your musical performances?

WH: The piano trio genre of the chamber music art form is one of the most intimate and passionate of any of the possible instrumental combinations. The three individual voices – piano, violin and cello – have to converse together, inspire each other and sometimes even interrupt one another! Our trio has been performing together for more than 35 years, and we are all very dear friends, so we have an incredibly intimate style.

Q: How has the chemistry and friendship between you, close friend Phillip Seltzer, and husband David Finckel affected your performative experience?

WH: As I mentioned, we have been so fortunate to be able to make music together for more than 35 years. The time we've spent together has helped us to develop a remarkably uncommon bond of trust, as well as the equally uncommon ability to communicate intuitively and effortlessly through a deep understanding of each others' playing. It is quite rare to have such long-term relationships as performers onstage and we are very grateful for the time we've been able to spend making music together.

Q: What compels you to support young artists on and off the stage around the world?

WH: As the beneficiaries of the energy and time devoted to our own development as artists by many older, generous musicians, it is simply a part of our own human nature to want to share our knowledge with the next generation of musicians. The artform cannot continue to flourish without this intergenerational connection. It is now the time in our careers to pass down what we have learned and we hope that our artistic journeys will be a source of inspiration for the next generation of young artists.

Q: What can audience members expect to hear from your upcoming performance this week?

WH: We will be bringing one of our most extraordinary piano trio programs to Hamilton College, featuring the last two piano trios from the pens of two of the most revered musical giants, Beethoven and Schubert. These trios are utterly monumental works of the repertoire. Performing just one of them is the artistic equivalent of climbing Mt. Everest – and we will have to climb to these great heights twice in the same day! The reward is similar to summiting the world's highest peaks, as we together experience the most glorious pinnacles of human artistic achievement. This highly demanding program is well worth the reward of reveling in the world's finest art.

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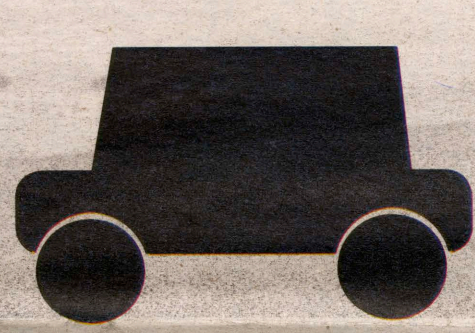

ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG

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NESCAC hockey playoff predictions

by Levi Lorenzo '19
Sports Editor

Tufts @ Trinity
Trinity, last year's NCAA runner-up, boasted the top offense and second-best defense overall in the NESCAC this year and the second-best offense and best defense in conference games. Tufts ranks ninth offensively overall and in conference games, along with ninth defensively overall and eighth in conference games. The Bantams should cruise on to the semifinals.
Prediction: Trinity 4, Tufts 1

Williams @ Connecticut College
Williams won big in New London, CT in the first matchup this season between the two teams, dropping seven goals on the Camels. Connecticut got revenge on Jan. 27 in Williamstown, MA. The Camels boast a better defense and offense in conference play, led by Jason Moreau and Ryan Petti, who are first and tied-for-second respectively in conference scoring. The Ephs, however, are 3-0-1 in their last four games. Look for Williams to pull off the upset
Prediction: Williams 4, Conn. College 3

Colby @ Amherst
Despite being the sixth-seed, Colby charges into this matchup with the Mammoths with a high-octane offense, having scored a NESCAC-best 57 goals in conference games. Colby won this matchup at home pretty handily, while Amherst dominated the Mules in Massachusetts. Amherst has lost just one game at home, a non-conference loss to powerhouse Endicott. While this figures to be a good matchup, home ice tips the scale to the Mammoths.
Prediction: Amherst 3, Colby 2

Wesleyan @ Hamilton
Wesleyan boasts the NESCAC's top two overall scoring leaders in Dylan Holze and Tyler Watt. Hamilton has the best overall scoring defense (second in conference play) and the conference's best goaltender, Evan Buitenhuis '18. Hamilton will call on the likes of Neil Conway '18, Brandon Willett '18, Rory Gagnon '19, and team-scoring leader Jason Brochu '19 to find the back of the net, while Buitenhuis and the defense look to shut down the Cardinal attack. A rowdy crowd in Sage Rink and a staunch defense should be too much for Wesleyan to overcome.
Prediction: Hamilton 3, Wesleyan 1

Wesleyan @ Middlebury
Middlebury is the best team, statistically-speaking, in the conference, scoring more goals and yielding fewer than any other team in conference play. Jessica Young and Maddie Winslow are the second and fourth-ranked overall scorers in the NESCAC, respectively. Wesleyan's offense has scored a paltry seventeen goals in sixteen NESCAC games, while giving up 38 in-conference goals, and 55 overall goals in 24 games. Middlebury will roll on to host the final four.
Prediction: Middlebury 4, Wesleyan 0

Colby @ Connecticut College
The Camels boast the third-best offense and defense in conference play, while the Mules sit in the bottom third of the conference in both categories. When the teams met three weekends ago in Waterville, Connecticut swept the weekend winning by a combined score of 7-2. Anything can happen in the playoffs, but the Camels are a good bet in this one.
Prediction: Conn. College 2, Colby 0

Williams @ Amherst
Since starting the season 2-3 in conference play, Amherst has gone 8-1-1 and rides a hot streak into the playoffs. The Mammoths have the conference's second-best offense, led by the NESCAC's leading scorer, Alex Toupal, and the fourth-best defense. Williams has the conference's third-best offense but ranks in the lower half of the conference in defense. Amherst won both matchups earlier this season and has not lost at home since Jan. 5. The Ephs will put up a fight, but the Mammoths take this one.
Prediction: Amherst 3, Williams 2

Bowdoin @ Hamilton
Sam Walther '18 is the NESCAC's best goaltender and has led Hamilton to the best overall defense and to a close second in conference defense to Amherst. Bowdoin ranks statistically in the middle-of-the-pack in the conference and the Continentals and Polar Bears each scored 32 goals in 16 conference games. Bowdoin did not get on the scoreboard in two games with Hamilton in Brunswick, ME earlier this season; one game was a 2-0 Continental victory and the other a scoreless draw. These two teams met last year in Clinton for a quarterfinal match and the Polar Bears scored the only goal in double overtime to win. This year, the Continentals and Walther outlast their foe.
Prediction: Hamilton 1, Bowdoin 0

American snowboarders dazzle in first week of Olympic competition

by Cliff Musial '21
STAFF WRITER

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

U.S. Vice President Mike Pence sat alongside South Korean President Moon Jae-in during the Opening Ceremony, reflecting the political implications inherent in the Olympics.

Last Friday, Feb. 9, the 23rd Winter Olympic Games commenced with the opening ceremony in PyeongChang, South Korea. 2,920 athletes from 92 nations gathered in the northeastern city near the border with North Korea to compete in 102 events derived from fifteen winter sports. The first week of competition brought victory for some, and inevitably, defeat for others.

As of Tuesday, Norway leads the field with eleven gold medals and 29 medals total, tailed by Germany, with eleven gold medals and 23 total, and Canada, with eight gold medals and 19 total. The United States sits back in sixth place with five golds and a total of twelve medals. However, the Olympic games are not intended to score or rank countries against one another — they are intended to bring athletes and teams from around the world together to compete regardless of nationality. Thus, all such rankings are unofficial and merely reflect the performance of individual athletes rather than a competition between nations, which the Olympic games do not advocate.

This being said, most countries take great pride in seeing their athletes perform well. The United States, though suffering defeats in some areas and lagging behind in the top competition, has seen its share of incredible victories. So far, five Americans have won gold medals: Shaun White and Chloe Kim in half-pipe snowboarding, Redmond Gerard, and Jamie Anderson in slopestyle snowboarding, and Mikaela Shiffrin in skiing.

Perhaps America's favorite performance so far was that of Redmond Gerard, a seventeen-year-old snowboarder originally from Rocky River, Ohio. He won a gold medal in men's slopestyle in an incredible performance on Feb. 11. In the qualifying heat the previous day, Gerard debuted as an olympian, earning a score of 82.55, which qualified him for finals in his second run. The next day, he started off with two dud runs, in which he earned scores of 43.33 and 46.40, putting all his his cards into his third and final run.

Despite this pressure, Gerard gave his best performance of both days, earning a score of 87.16, and securing an unexpected gold medal position. This victory made Red Gerard the youngest American to medal in snowboarding, and the first Olympic gold medalist born in the 21st century (he was born on June 29, 2000). Later, he revealed on *Jimmy Kimmel Live* that he had not only overslept, but lost his coat, a men's small, and worn a teammate's, a men's large, the day of the finals. Perhaps he has become a favorite because he was the first American gold medalist in Pyeongchang, due to the unlikelihood of his victory, or because of his aloof, youthful charm. No matter the cause, Red Gerard won not only the gold medal, but the hearts of many Americans watching his miraculous run.

Chloe Kim, also only seventeen years old, won gold in the women's half-pipe, making her the youngest woman to win an Olympic snowboarding medal. Though born and raised in California, Kim trained in Switzerland for more than two years before returning to the United States, nearly instantly becoming a professional and competing in the X Games. Unlike Gerard, she dominated the half-pipe both days of the event, with only one bad run out of five total. She won with a near perfect score of 98.25, far above any competition.

Snowboarding has been the one sport the United States has dominated, winning four gold medals, three more than any other country. American teams and athletes have lagged behind such countries as Norway, Canada, Germany, and the Netherlands in almost every other event. But this is to be expected, considering that snowboarding originates from the United States, as it was invented in the 1960s.

In the political scene, the proximity of PyeongChang to the North and South Korean border caused a fair amount of controversy, with some teams almost refusing to come in light of the dangerous tensions between the two Korean states. However, North Korea surprisingly agreed to participate in this year's games, as well as help form a unified Korean women's hockey team. On Jan. 17, North and South Korea met to organize this team, which consists of twelve women from North Korea and 23 from South Korea. Additionally, and perhaps even more surprisingly, the athletes of the two countries marched together in the opening ceremony as simply Korea. This may signal the beginning of improving relations between the Korean states, as the Jan. 17 meeting marked the first time North and South Korea held a formal meeting and discussion in two years. Whether or not this brief union will have any bearing on future relations between North and South Korea remains to be seen, but the 2018 Winter Olympic Games have certainly achieved some of what the Olympics hope to foster: unity between countries.

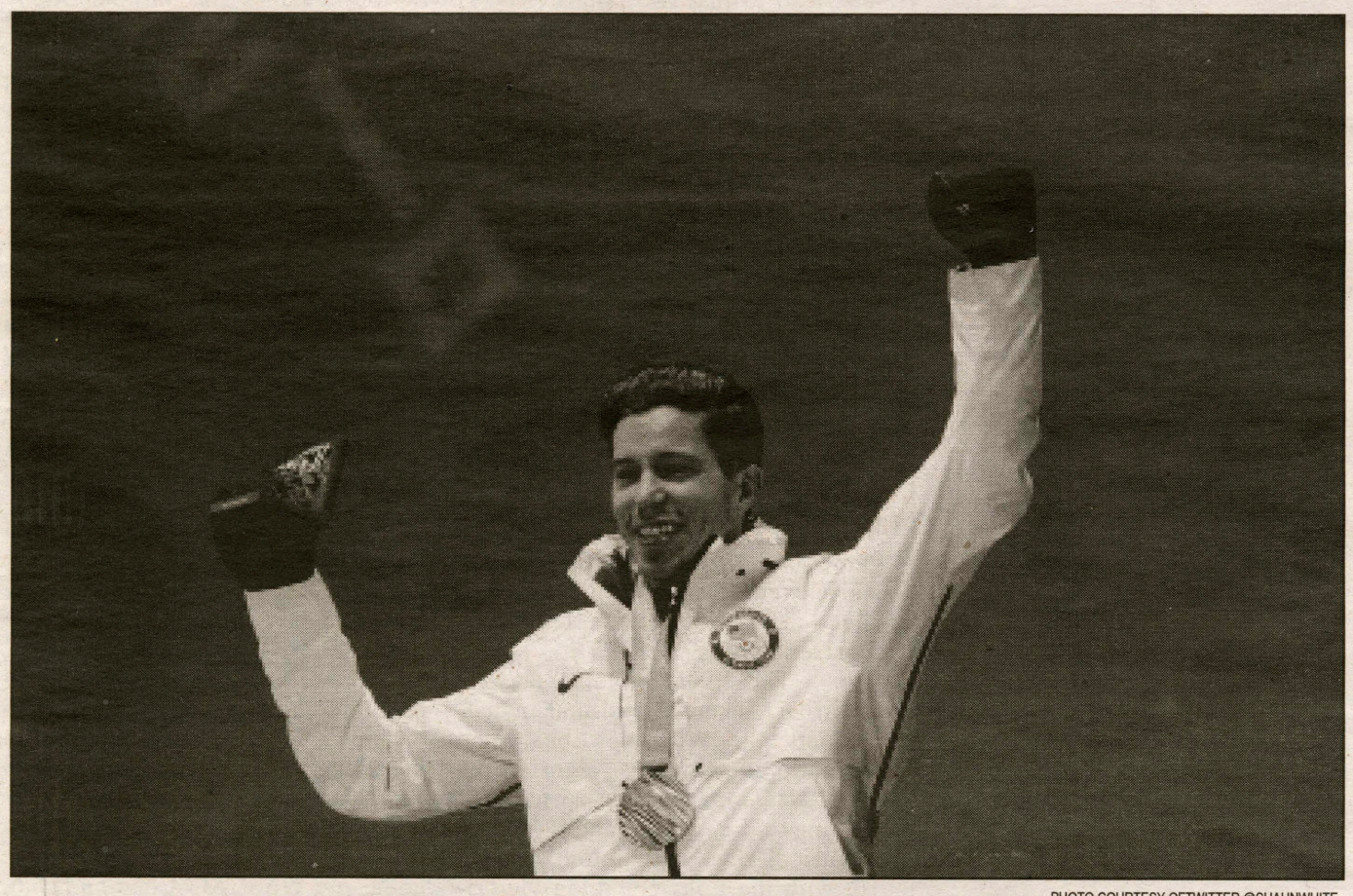


PHOTO COURTESY OFTWITTER @SHAUNWHITE

After failing to reach the podium in 2014, snowboarder Shaun White claimed gold in Pyeongchang.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
February 22, 2018

Men's basketball advances to NESCAC semifinals with narrow victory over Tufts

by Patrick Malin '18
Sports Editor

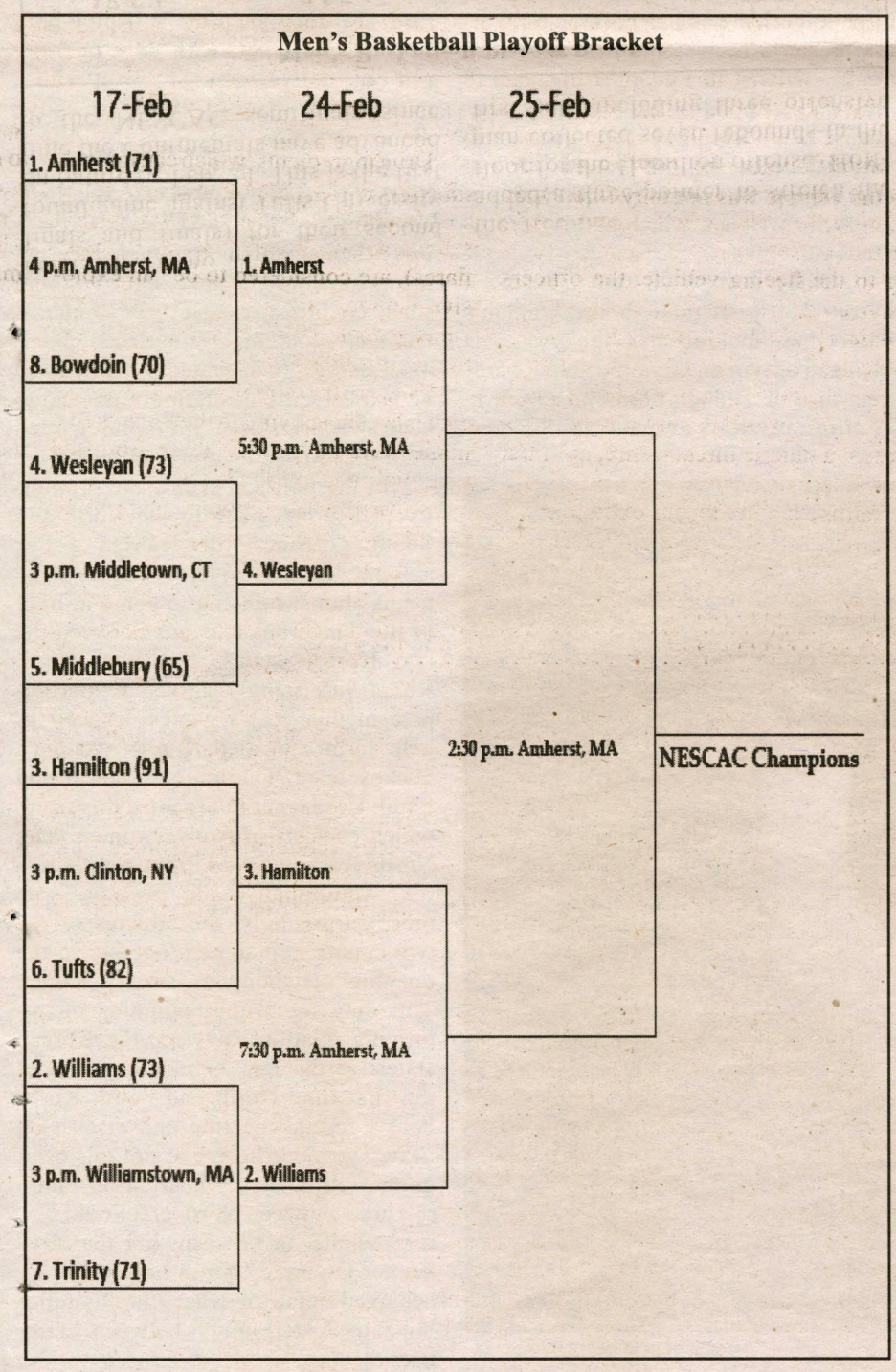
	1	2	F
Tufts	37	45	82
#15 Hamilton	**45**	**46**	**91**

The Hamilton men's basketball team won a thrilling contest 91-82 over the Tufts Jumbos to advance to the NESCAC playoff semifinals on Saturday, Feb. 17, capitalizing on an enthusiastic home-court advantage in Margaret Bundy Scott Field House. Hamilton, the third seed in the tournament, will travel to Amherst, MA. (who will host the semifinals and finals) for their second round game against Tufts University on Saturday, Feb. 24. This is the first time the Continentals have advanced to the NESCAC semifinals since they joined the league in 2011.

Entering the game, the Continentals ranked fifteenth in NCAA Division III basketball, earning the third seed boasting an overall record of 21-3 with an impressive 7-3 in conference play. However, there was little separating the top six teams in the conference (the top five seeds all finished 7-3 in conference competition and Tufts went 6-4 to claim the sixth seed), meaning the Jumbos were certainly qualified to test the talent of the Continentals.

Kena Gilmour '20 and Pete Hoffman '19 helped Hamilton to a hot start in the game, scoring 29 points combined on 12 of 22 shooting. The duo went a perfect four of four from the free-throw line, while Gilmour added a three-pointer to stretch the floor for the Hamilton offense. Hoffman collected seven rebounds in the first half, including three offensive boards to provide his team with vital extra possessions. The Continentals held a 45-37 lead heading into the halftime break, with Tufts guard Vincent Pace keeping the Jumbos within striking distance with 13 first half points.

PHOTO BY KIRUBEL-TESFAYE '21
Vincent Conn '20 puts his handles on display against the Jumbos.



The NESCAC men's quarterfinals start on Saturday.

The Jumbos took a 57-56 lead with 12:00 remaining in the second half, and managed to cling onto a one-point advantage with under five minutes. Gilmour and Hoffman took over on offense, scoring seven straight points. Tufts would not go away quietly, cutting the Continentals' lead to just two points (81-79) with 1:45 in the tight playoff contest. Gilmour dazzled in crunch time, draining a three-pointer followed up by a quick Hoffman jump shot to extend the Hamilton lead to seven. Gilmour proceeded to draw two fouls, and iced the game with three free-throws, creating a deficit that the Jumbos could not overcome. The final score read 91-82 when the final buzzer sounded, sending the talented Continentals into the semifinals.

Gilmour finished the game with a double-double, matching his career highs in points and rebounds with 29 and twelve, respectively. Hoffman and Michael Grassey '19 joined the double-double club in the game as Hoffman tallied 25 points and eleven rebounds while Grassey added ten points and a team-high fourteen boards.

The Continentals face a tough test in their semifinal matchup with the Williams Ephs, who currently sit at number eight on the latest *D3Hoops.com* top-25 national rankings. The two nationally-ranked squads clashed in Clinton on Feb. 10, with the Ephs emerging victorious by a 81-67 final score. The two teams battled to a 41-41 tie in the first half, but the Ephs jumped out to an early lead in the second that proved insurmountable.

Williams barely squeaked out a victory in their semifinal game against the seventh seeded Trinity Bantams, with a missed lay-up in the dying embers of the game proving decisive to set up a heavily anticipated rematch with Hamilton in the playoffs.

The Continentals will have their hands full on the defensive end of the court. The Ephs have two of the five leading scorers in the NESCAC in James Heskett and Bobby Casey who averaged 19.6 and 16.2 points per game respectively during the regular season. Both Heskett and Casey are lethal from three-point land, each averaging over 44 percent from deep.

However, the Continentals possess the firepower necessary to compete with the Williams' dual threat, leading the conference in points scored per game as a team. Williams proved it is capable of counteracting the strong Hamilton offense with a lock-down defensive effort, holding the Continentals to their season low in scoring when the teams last faced off in early Feb.

The Continentals and Ephs will tip off at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 24, with the season on the line for both squads. Neither team will have the benefit of home-court advantage, as number one seed Amherst will host both the semifinals and championship game. The winner will take on the victor of the Amherst-Wesleyan game for the NESCAC title on Sunday, Feb. 25 at 2:30 p.m. The Continentals will not only hope to take home the NESCAC Championship, but also earn a spot in the NCAA Division III Tournament with an im-